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THE PRESIDENT'S INTELLIGENCE CHECKLIST--30 AUGUST 1963

1. SOUTH VIETNAM:

A. DIEM IS VIGOROUSLY AND EMOTIONALLY DEFENDING THE REGIME'S POLICIES TOWARD THE BUDDHISTS.

B. HE TOLD A US OFFICIAL ON WEDNESDAY THAT HE HAD NOW SOLVED THE BUDDHIST ISSUE WITH THE HELP OF "REAL" BUDDHIST LEADERS PREVIOUSLY SHUNTED ASIDE BY VIET CONG CADRES WITHIN BUDDHIST RANKS.

C. DIEM--REPORTEDLY USING WORDS AS IF THEY HAD SOME MAGIC THAT MADE THEM BELIEVABLE--SAID NHU'S ACTIONS WERE SELFLESS, AND SHOWED PASSIONATE INDIGNATION OVER ATTACKS IN THE "IRRESPONSIBLE" US PRESS AGAINST HIS GOVERNMENT AND HIS FAMILY.

D. EFFORTS-- [REDACTED] --TO LINE UP POPULAR SUPPORT FOR THE REGIME ARE CONTINUING, [REDACTED]

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E. YESTERDAY MAO TSE-TUNG, IN A STATEMENT AIMED ACTUALLY AT CONTRASTING CHINESE SUPPORT WITH MOSCOW'S RELATIVE RESTRAINT, PLEDGED SUPPORT FROM "THE CHINESE PEOPLE" IN THE FIGHT "AGAINST DIEM AND THE US."

2. INDIA-USSR:

A. MOSCOW APPEARS WILLING TO UP ITS ECONOMIC AID TO INDIA, AND FINANCE MINISTER KRISHNAMACHARI SAYS

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DISCUSSIONS WILL OPEN IN A FEW WEEKS.

B. NEW DELHI IS COUNTING ON THE SOVIET BLOC TO CHIP IN ABOUT A BILLION DOLLARS TOWARD THE THIRD FIVE YEAR PLAN. BLOC COMMITMENTS UP TO THE PRESENT MIDPOINT ARE JUST OVER \$600 MILLION.

C. THE INDIAN STEEL MINISTRY WANTS TO SEEK SOVIET AID FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE BOKARO STEEL MILL, BUT NEHRU HAS NOT DECIDED YET ON THIS.

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3. YEMEN-UAR-SAUDI ARABIA:

A. UN REPRESENTATIVE RIKHYE, EN ROUTE TO YEMEN, TOLD OUR EMBASSY IN CAIRO YESTERDAY THAT THE EGYPTIANS ASSUMED HIM THERE WOULD BE NO MORE BOMBINGS OF SAUDI TERRITORY.

B. RIKHYE ALSO CLAIMS FOREIGN MINISTER FAWZI TOLD HIM CAIRO HAS INFORMED THAT IT WILL PAY ITS SHARE TOWARD KEEPING THE UN MISSION IN YEMEN ANOTHER TWO MONTHS.

C. RESENTMENT IS GROWING IN JIDDA, HOWEVER, OVER THANT'S RECENT ALLEGATIONS THAT THE SAUDIS HAVE NOT LIVED UP TO THE DISENGAGEMENT AGREEMENT.

D. OUR EMBASSY IN TAIZ HAS OBSERVED A SHARP INCREASE IN UAR CASUALTIES DURING THE PAST MONTH, WHICH DOESN'T

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QUITE JIBE WITH MARSHAL AMER'S EARLY AUGUST PUBLIC ASSERTION THAT "MILITARY OPERATIONS IN YEMEN ARE COMPLETED."

4. MALAYSIA:

A. COLONIAL SECRETARY SANDYS TOLD US OFFICIALS YESTERDAY THAT LONDON DOES NOT CONSIDER THE FORMATION OF MALAYSIA TO BE CONTINGENT UPON A UN FINDING THAT IT REFLECTS THE WILL OF THE PEOPLES CONCERNED.

B. HE ADDED THAT THE PEOPLE OF BORNEO HAVE ALREADY SEEN TOO MUCH EVIDENCE OF INDONESIAN STRENGTH AND APPARENT BRITISH WEAKNESS BEFORE PRESSURE.

C. MEANWHILE, THE INDONESIAN NAVY IS PREPARING TO COUNTER INCIDENTS THAT MIGHT ARISE OUT OF THE MALAYSIA DISPUTE.

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5. NOTES:

A. INDIA: NEHRU'S NEW CABINET APPOINTEES, ESPECIALLY FINANCE MINISTER KRISHNAMACHARI, ARE PROMINENT AND CAPABLE MEN. THEY ARE, HOWEVER, WITHOUT SIGNIFICANT POLITICAL INFLUENCE. SUBSTITUTION OF THEM FOR THE THREE CONGRESS PARTY STALWARTS RECENTLY TRANSFERRED TO PARTY ORGANIZATIONAL WORK SUGGESTS THAT HENCEFORTH REAL POWER WILL LIE IN THE NATIONAL ORGANS OF THE PARTY INSTEAD OF THE CABINET, WHICH IS THE WAY NEHRU WANTS IT.

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B. [REDACTED]

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C. URUGUAY - COMMUNIST CHINA: INTERESTED IN EXPANDING ITS EXPORTS TO COMMUNIST CHINA, URUGUAY HAS GIVEN PEIPING PERMISSION TO ESTABLISH A TRADE OFFICE IN MONTEVIDEO. THERE IS LITTLE CHANCE OF SIGNIFICANTLY INCREASING THE PRESENT LOW LEVEL OF TRADE, HOWEVER, AND WE FIGURE THE OFFICE WILL BE MAINLY AN OUTLET FOR PRO-PEIPING PROPAGANDA.

D. WEST GERMANY: THE THREE ALLIED EMBASSIES IN BONN FORESEE AN EARLY RENEWAL OF WEST GERMAN PROPOSALS TO HOLD BUNDESTAG MEETINGS IN WEST BERLIN. THE EMBASSIES GENERALLY AGREE THAT THE PRESSURE WILL COME FROM ALL PARTIES AND WILL BE EVEN GREATER THAN THAT EXERTED LAST SPRING. IT WAS GENERALLY FELT THAT THE ALLIES MAY SOON BE CONFRONTED WITH A CHOICE OF GIVING IN ON THE ISSUE, OR OBJECTING TO IT ON PRINCIPLE.

E. CUBA: [REDACTED]

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[REDACTED] THE PRESS LAST NIGHT CITED "REPORTS" OF A POSSIBLE NEW ANTI-CASTRO INVASION AND AN ALERT OF THE CUBAN MILITIA. [REDACTED]

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